

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (new): A marking or engraving device comprising:

holding means for holding a raw or partly prepared meat product with at least one external surface of the meat exposed and in no contact with any part of the device;

a gas laser for engraving a low or high relief mark on the at least one external surface of the meat with no contact with any part of the at least one external surface of the meat by any part of the device.

Claim 13 (new): The marking or engraving device according to claim 12, including a programmable logic control connected to the laser for producing calories and rays with selected intensity, and for forming a shape of the engraved mark, and sensor means for sensing a type of the meat to be marked and at least one of a texture and a grammage of the at least one external surface to be engraved with the mark, for adjusting the laser using the programmable logic control, the mark including at least one of a shape, a statement, a figure and a further information, and the mark having a controlled printing tone determined by the programmable logic control.

Claim 14 (new): The marking or engraving device according to claim 13, wherein the holding means included means for moving the meat under the laser for engraving the mark when the meat to be engraved is under the laser, the wavelength of the laser being selected depending on the nature of the external surface of the meat to be engraved.

Claim 15 (new): The marking or engraving device according to claim 14, wherein the device includes an engraving head comprising means having a hyper-heated metal head by means of resistance's or equivalent, with production of calories regulated to mark the meat surface as soon as the meat approaches the engraving head.